UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/254
3 June 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

Forty-seventh session
Item 69 of the preliminary list*

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 2 June 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text, in English and French, of a statement of the European Community and its member States on Security Council resolution 757 (1992) of 30 May 1992, issued in Lisbon and Brussels on 1 June 1992 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly under item 69, entitled: "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security", as contained in the preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Fernando REINO
Permanent Representative

---

* A/47/50.

92-23766 3216g (E) 040692 040692

/...

Annex

STATEMENT ON UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION 757 (1992) OF 30 MAY 1992

The European Community (EC) and its member States welcome United Nations Security Council resolution 757 (1992) of 30 May 1992. They will, without delay, take the legal measures needed to ensure the immediate enforcement of the measures adopted in that resolution.

The European Community and its member States express the view that those measures should be considered in the light of their untiring efforts to achieve a lasting and peaceful solution for the problems of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, namely through the Conference on Yugoslavia and through the talks of the three communities of Bosnia and Herzegovina on constitutional arrangements. The adopted measures, therefore, should remain in force until decisive steps by those directly responsible have been taken in the direction of peace.

The European Community and its member States urge all parties to the Yugoslav crisis, and in particular Serbia and Montenegro, to comply with all relevant EC declarations and Security Council resolutions and recall the special obligation which falls upon them in the search for a peaceful and negotiated solution for those outstanding problems.

The European Community and its member States remain deeply concerned with the situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. While recalling their declaration of 11 May 1992, they urge again all parties involved in the conflict to engage constructively in the constitutional talks under the aegis of the EC peace conference as the only political framework which may enable a peaceful solution for the conflict in that Republic.

The European Community and its member States will continue to follow closely developments in the territory of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and will be ready to take further measures if and whenever deemed appropriate.

UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/255
3 June 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

Forty-seventh session
Item 73 of the preliminary list*

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

Letter dated 3 June 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic concerning Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Syrian Arab citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan area submitted to the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories during its visit to the Syrian Arab Republic from 31 April to 1 May 1992.

I should be grateful if you would have this statement circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 73 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Issa AWAD
Minister Plenipotentiary
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/47/50.

ANNEX

Statement issued by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic and submitted to the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories during 1991

The Israeli authorities are continuing their flagrant and deliberate violation of the norms of international law, the Charter of the United Nations, the Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907, the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination of 1965 and other international instruments. They have also continued to flout the resolutions of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the relevant specialized agencies and to defy the international community and world public opinion, whether in occupied Palestine, the Syrian Arab Golan or southern Lebanon.

Israel persists in its claim that the Golan Heights are part of the territory of so-called "Greater Israel" and aims at erasing the Syrian Arab identity of both the territory and the Syrian Arab inhabitants of the occupied Golan. The Israeli authorities have continued to follow their repressive policy against those Syrian Arab inhabitants who have remained in their five occupied villages (Majdal Shams, Buq'ata, Ayn Qunyah, Mas'adah and Al-Fajr) in spite of repression by the occupation authorities, their confiscation of freedoms and property and other inhumane practices contrary to all international laws and customs relating to human rights.

The Israeli authorities have continued to follow this policy at the same time as thousands of new Jewish immigrants have been brought into Israel to settle in the occupied Golan, providing them with all the rights denied to the indigenous inhabitants of the Golan with regard to life in their occupied homeland. As compared with deprivation of most health and education services and the vast neglect and deterioration in the area of public service facilities throughout the villages of the occupied Syrian Golan, the Israeli authorities are spending millions of dollars on the construction of new settlements in the Golan and the improvement of conditions in the old settlements, in order to induce new foreign Jewish immigrants, absolute strangers to this region, to go and settle there. The Syrian inhabitants of the occupied Golan are not permitted to make any protest against the usurpation of their land as it is stolen from them and given to foreigners without restriction or condition.

The citizens of the Golan have suffered and continue to suffer many kinds of oppression and repression aimed at obliterating the Syrian identity by force, from the occupation of their land by aggression in 1967 to the adoption of the annexation decision in 1981, the ensuing attempt to impose Israeli

identity cards on them and the brutal repression to which they have been subjected since the beginning of the Palestinian intifadah and the escalation of their resistance to Israeli occupation. With the increase in the fresh waves of Jewish immigration, the acts of repression and oppression against them have increased considerably in order to prevent any increased scope for their rejection of and protest against the settlement of the new immigrants on their land.

The kinds of suffering and oppression to which the Arabs of the occupied Syrian Golan were subjected during 1991 and which have continued during the current year are many and horrendous. It is expected that they will continue until the hold of occupation is eventually removed. They are set forth in the various sections of this statement.

I. Policy of annexation and settlement

In accordance with the above and as we have shown in our earlier reports on the occupied Arab territories, the Israeli occupation authorities were quick to reveal their expansionist intentions regarding the occupied Golan Heights. They promulgated Act. No. 14 of 1981, declaring the annexation of the occupied Golan Heights to the Israeli entity and the application of its legislation, judicial and administrative systems to it, in contravention of the provisions of international instruments and legislation, in particular, the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and under occupation. The Convention makes it incumbent on the occupying State to continue the application of the national laws and regulations of the areas under occupation and not to infringe on their national identity or introduce alien human groups to be settled in such areas.

The truth is that the Israeli authorities harboured the intention of occupying and annexing the Golan Heights, and did so when the occasion presented itself, because of the strategic importance of the Golan as a strategic base for launching acts of aggression against Syria should an opportunity arise in the future. Accordingly, we have found that the leaders of the Israeli entity have affirmed and continue to affirm at various stages and on various occasions their intentions not to withdraw from the occupied Golan Heights.

Israel's expansionist intentions in this regard have been corroborated, since the beginning of its aggressive military operations on 5 June 1967, by its extremely harsh strikes against civilians and residential areas in the Golan, which have forced the civilian inhabitants of the Heights to collective flight from their homes and villages. No inhabitants remain there except in the village of Majdal Shams and four other small villages that still resist the Israeli occupation heroically in spite of their scant population.

The United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 497 (1981), condemning Israel's decision to annex the Golan, deeming it null and void and

without international legal effect. However, in spite of the Security Council resolution, which represents international legitimacy, Israel still refuses to implement it or be bound by it. In addition, it is acting swiftly to build Jewish settlements in the Golan and to channel new immigrants to settle there. However, the Syrian Arab inhabitants of the Golan villages are heroically continuing their struggle against Israeli occupation, holding fast to their land and the rights guaranteed them by international law.

In addition to what we have mentioned in our previous reports, we give below the facts relating to the situation in the occupied Golan Heights and the policy of the Israeli authorities in respect of Jewish settlement there during 1991 as relayed by the Israeli press. The Israeli newspaper Ha'aretz stated as follows: "The organizational plan of population distribution in Israel in the light of data on new immigration and anticipated immigration during the next few years is concerned with action to increase the number of Jewish settlers in the Golan to 30,000" (Ha'aretz, 8 January 1991). According to the Jerusalem Post for 10 March 1991, the officials of Israeli settlements in the Golan Heights asked the Likud Party not to relinquish the Golan Heights, and settlers' concern about the future of the Golan increased following the statements made by United States leaders against the backdrop of the Gulf War. The president of the local council at the Katzrin settlement, Sami Bar-Lev, said: "Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir promises, in a letter sent recently to the heads of Jewish settlements in the Golan, that the Golan will not change and will remain a part of Israel" (Jerusalem Post, 10 March 1991).

Knesset Speaker Dov Shilansky said during his visit to the Golan Heights: "Israel will not in any way relinquish the Golan Heights. There is no legal possibility of discussing the question of returning the Golan to Syria. That is in accordance with the application of Israeli law to the Golan under a Knesset decision 10 years ago" (Ha'aretz, 10 March 1991).

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee that there was no change in Israel's position on the Golan Heights and that they would not think of rescinding the 1981 law that states that the Golan Heights is a part of Israel. The number of its inhabitants would shortly be increased to approximately 20,000 following the construction of 1,200 housing units to absorb more immigrants there (Ha'aretz, 19 March 1991).

Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, the Israeli Chief of Staff, when bidding farewell to the Northern Command on the occasion of the approaching end of his service in the Israeli army said: "The Golan is extremely important for Israel. When we are confronting an army or a State with which we are in a state of war, this region is extremely important for us" (Ha'aretz, 25 March 1991).

If Dan Shomron wants to keep the Golan for military reasons, the extremists in the Zionist parties intend to keep it for expansionist reasons. Ben-Horen, who has given himself the nickname of "Chief of Judah", said that

his supporters in the Golan were being organized to resist any attempt aimed at returning the Golan to Syria. Ben-Horen, who is one of the leaders of the Kach movement said that he would shortly return to the Golan to take action there against any attempt at any relinquishment of the Golan (Ha'aretz, 22 March 1991).

A United States Administration report estimates the number of Jews in the Golan Heights at approximately 12,000 (Ha'aretz, 27 February 1991).

Reliable Israeli sources stated that in 1991 1,000 housing units would be erected in existing settlements in the occupied Golan (Ha'aretz, 22 April 1991).

With regard to Israeli investment in the Golan, the Minister of Agriculture announced the establishment of a compound for 1,000 milk cattle and a new dairy centre in the Golan Heights at a cost of $5 to $6 million (Ma'ariv, 1 May 1991).

A new settlement named Kanaf was inaugurated in the Golan Heights. The Minister of Housing, Ariel Sharon, was invited to the inaugural celebrations. The president of the regional council for Jewish settlements in the Golan, who was present at this inauguration, announced the establishment of two new settlements, one in the northern part of the Heights and one in the south (Ha'aretz, 21 May 1991).

That was for the purpose of housing 30 families, including new Jewish immigrant families. Minister of Housing Ariel Sharon said on 21 May 1991 during a tour of the Golan Heights that 400 new emigrants had settled in the Golan Heights recently and that it was intended to increase the number of Jewish settlers in the Golan from 12,000 at present to 25,000 in the future (Ma'ariv, 12 May 1991). He added, challenging the sentiments and the will of the Arabs of the occupied Golan: "Israel will send new settlers to the Golan as a part of Israel".

The newspaper Ha'aretz carried a statement by the Minister of Economics and Planning, David Magen, that in no way differs from those of other Israeli officials demonstrating their wish to continue extending Israeli hegemony over the Golan. In this statement, he said that the Golan is an inseparable part of Galilee and that the Government was currently preparing a draft law for submission to the Knesset for construction to develop Galilee, the Golan and the Negev (Ha'aretz, 2 July 1991).

The goals of Zionist occupation in the Golan are the same as in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, with efforts to intensify settlement in order to Judaize these regions in their entirety. Sharon, the Minister of Housing expressed this as follows: "The creation of faits accomplis in the territory through the expansion of settlement in the Golan, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip will continue" (Ma'ariv, 25 July 1991).

The newspaper Ha'aretz referred to this official orientation in a news item which stated that the Government had requested a transfer in the amount of $15 million new shekels (NIS) for settlement in the Golan, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip (Ha'aretz, 23 July 1991).

The newspaper Yediot Aharonot said: "The Ministry of Housing has resumed building in the Golan following a halt due to budgetary difficulties. The construction of 3,200 housing units will shortly be completed. There is an additional programme for the construction of four settlements in the Golan: two at Berovim and Agon have been approved by the Ministerial Committee for Settlement, and the two others will be put to the Ministerial Committee for Settlement shortly" (Yediat Aharonot, 25 July 1991).

With regard to the expansion of settlement in the Golan, the newspaper Davar published a report on 4 September 1991 that said "Twenty-four new immigrant families from the Soviet Union are ready to move soon to the Ke'la Qal' Golan settlement in the northern Golan.

Yehuda Fillman, President of the local council for the Golan said that the above-mentioned families would go to the Bruchim settlement centre in the northern Golan. He explained that a study would be made of a project for establishing two new settlements in the Golan near Lake Tiberias and said that it should be noted that, during the first half of 1991, agricultural settlements in the Golan had absorbed 120 Jewish immigrant families and that Katzrin alone had absorbed 160 families. The number of Jewish settlers in the Golan up to the beginning of September 1991 had totalled 11,500, an increase of 1,500 over the past three years. That was confirmed by Yehuda Fillman mentioned above (Davar, 4 September 1991).

The Minister of Economics and Planning, David Magen, announced on 7 October 1991 that a start had been made on the operation of building approximately 1,482 housing units in the Golan, out of the 3,000 units scheduled for construction in 1991, 1,800 in Katzrin settlement and the rest in fertile agricultural locations in the Heights. The Golan settlements were attached for administrative purposes to the local council for settlements in Galilee (Davar, 8 October 1991).

The newspapaer Ha'aretz said with regard to the settlement of immigrants in the Golan: "A group of new immigrants from the Soviet Union have settled in the northern part of the Golan Heights in the Qal' Golan settlement occupying housing used by the army until a few days ago" (Ha'aretz, 15 October 1991).

With regard to settlers' defiance of peace efforts, Ha'aretz reported on 22 October 1991 that a group of settlers in the Golan Heights had established at least one new settlement post in the Golan Heights on the eve of the convening of the Madrid Peace Conference (Ha'aretz, 23 October 1991).

Ha'aretz also stated that it had been decided that some ministers,

Knesset members and many other personalities were to participate in the inaugural ceremony of the Berokhim settlement in the Golan Heights. The ceremony would be held at the Ke'la settlement in the northern Golan. Ministers Sharon, Eitan and Ne'eman had announced that they would participate in the ceremonies (Ha'aretz, 4 November 1991).

The Zionist settlement goals in the Golan are the same as in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. All the occupied Arab areas are the target of settlement and Judaization. Knesset member Haim Oron (Mapam) and Dedi Zucker (Ratz) revealed that the Ministry of Construction and Housing would spend NIS 864 million on the construction of 5,400 new housing units in the occupied areas during 1992, with approximately 4,650 housing units to be built in the West Bank, 280 in the Gaza Strip and 470 in the Golan Heights (Yediot Aharonot, 11 November 1991).

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir expressed the expansionist Zionist viewpoint regarding the occupied Arab territories, as represented in the settlement policy. He said: "We shall continue settlement in the occupied areas because it meets our needs for water and bread" (Yediot Aharonot, 26 September 1991).

Indeed, Shamir does not even recognize the Green Line, i.e., the 1948 Armistice line between the Israeli entity, on the one hand, and the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan, on the other. He said, following the laying of the foundation-stone of the Torigal settlement: "As far as I am concerned, there is no such thing as the green line" (Ma'ariv, 24 September 1991).

While Israel officially declared its annexation of the Golan by Decision No. 14 of 1981, Yitzhak Shamir also considers that the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are an inseparable part of Israel. This means that Shamir intends to declare the annexation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip whenever circumstances are propitious. Shamir said before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee on 24 June 1991 that he believed that the West Bank and the Gaza Strip were an inseparable part of Israel. "We shall struggle to render this belief a tangible reality" (Ma'ariv, Yediot Aharonot, 25 June 1991).

Thus we note that the Zionist expansionist view of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan is one and the same and that the circumstances of the occupation of the three areas are one and the same also; the expansionist settlement policy applies to them all.

Accordingly, the liberation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip from Israeli occupation is linked to the liberation of the Golan. The endeavour to end this occupation must be characterized by unity and complementarity.

II. Economic matters

Unquestionably, the Golan Arabs are exposed to the worst kinds of economic injustice, oppression and exploitation. Israel's objective in this is to escalate the suffering in this vital public area, as demonstrated by the ongoing and persistent Israeli effort to weaken the spirit of resistance among Arab citizens in the Golan by destroying the foundations of their simple and modest local economy.

This Israeli warfare at the economic level against the Golan Arabs is seen in a number of practices and phenomena, the following being the main ones:

1. The strengthening of restrictions on the marketing of agricultural crops and produce, particularly the apple crop, which is one of the sources of livelihood of the Golan Arabs. These restrictions take the form of the many obstacles placed by the occupation authorities on bringing Golan apples to the markets of the occupied West Bank or even to Israeli markets.

Nor do the occupation authorities hesitate to destroy apple and other agricultural crops in the Golan in order to deprive the Arabs there of benefiting from the proceeds of marketing them, as a reprisal for protest actions against the practices of the occupiers. Naturally, 1991 was not free from this harsh type of practice. According to reports from the Golan, part of the Golan apple crop was spoiled because the authorities barred the owners from marketing it directly.

2. It is well known that the region as a whole has suffered in past years, including 1991, from a marked shortage of rainwater. This has, in turn, led to a shortage of the irrigation water required for arable land which depends on irrigation by spring and well water. The Israeli authorities, instead of desisting from their policy of continual reduction of the amount of irrigation water for Golan Arabs to water their summer crops and their trees, from whose produce they make a livelihood, continued that policy and deprived the Arab inhabitants finally of the water they need. They diverted it to the farmland of Jewish settlements there, heedless of the cries of protest and complaints made by the Golan Arabs to the occupation authorities. According to information from Arab inhabitants, the Israeli authorities have prohibited them from digging new wells during the past year and have blocked some of the wells dug earlier, as well as barring the inhabitants from other water sources. They have prevented them from using wells by cutting pipes laid from those sources to their orchards.

3. The occupation authorities were not satisfied with the shrinkage of arable land that resulted from the reduction of irrigation water in the villages of the occupied Golan. They have uprooted seedlings planted by Arab citizens and also many of the fruit-bearing trees planted earlier, on the grounds that the owners of the land on which they were planted had not obtained permits to plant them from the so-called "Israel Land Administration".

4. In the attempt to reduce the arable area, the occupation authorities have, from time to time in the villages of the occupied Golan, set large-scale fires over extensive areas of Arab orchards and in the wooded areas surrounding those villages in the form of natural reserves.

5. This is in addition to the burning of extensive areas of pastureland and woods so as to deprive the Golan Arabs of a major source of income, namely stockraising. The Golan Arabs deny the reports of the Israeli authorities that these fires were set by accident because of the negligence of some Jewish hikers. They affirm that all these fires were set for deliberate racist motives.

6. The setting of fires in Arab pasture areas is not all that is suffered by Arab herders in the Golan. There are also the mines set around pasturelands. These are anti-personnel mines that explode under the feet of Arab herdsmen, causing death or mutilation. The Israeli authorities do not notify them beforehand of where the mines are planted so that they can avoid them. The traditional excuse of the occupation authorities in justification of this inhumane practice is "security requirements".

7. In addition to the above, in the economic field there are the overwhelming taxes imposed by the occupation authorities on the Golan Arabs, in particular, the income tax on agricultural crops to restrict marketing. It is a tax totally out of proportion to the local income.

The Israeli tax authorities do not hesitate to confiscate the material assets of Arab inhabitants who are unable to pay the overwhelming taxes imposed on them. Confiscation sometimes extends to areas of arable land belonging to such inhabitants.

Unquestionably, the settling of new Jewish immigrants in the occupied Arab territory increases the volume of psychological coercion to which the Golan Arab inhabitants are subjected. They see resources of their land plundered and given to alien new Jewish immigrants who pour into this part of the occupied Arab territories with the open encouragement of the Government of Israel. Naturally, the impact of these settlement actions is not confined to the psychology of the Arab citizens here; these measures extend to all areas of their life and their subsistence.

Thus, the economic situation of those Arabs will deteriorate even further, particularly when a period of drought has overtaken the area, as in the last few years, in particular, 1991.

III. Health services

The five Syrian Arab villages (Majdal Shams, Mas'adah, Buq'ata, Al-Fajr and Ayn Qunyah) still lack any health facilities or centres (no hospitals, clinics or even surgeries or, especially, pharmacies). Citizens are obliged to travel to distant hospitals in Nazareth, Safad and the West Bank for

treatment despite having to pay exorbitant taxes for so-called "health insurance" and increased persecution. The occupation authorities refuse to allow Syrian nationals in the Golan to travel out of the area for treatment unless they obtain an official departure permit stamped and signed by the area's Military Governor. Dozens of requests have been submitted to the Israeli military authorities seeking permission for citizens to obtain treatment in the Syrian Arab Republic, but the authorities approve or reject the requests at their own discretion.

While the Arabs of the occupied Golan suffer an overall deterioration of their living conditions as a result of the neglect, harassment and repression meted out to them by the Israeli authorities, the authorities prevent the Syrian population of the Golan from establishing their own private clinic or a school for their children, even at their own expense, and yet spend millions of dollars to boost tourism in the Golan.

In this connection, sources at the Israeli Government commercial corporation report that the corporation intends to invest some $5 million for the development of tourist sites in the Golan in early 1992. This amount is equivalent to double the level of such investment in the Golan over the past 10 years.

IV. Education

Ever since the occupation began 25 years ago, Israel has continued to violate the national culture of Syrian Arab citizens of the Golan. It has eliminated Syrian Arab curricula from the schools, adopted Israeli curricula in their place and imposed them on students. It is hostile to the population's national and spiritual heritage, and the occupation authorities consistently expel competent teachers and replace them with incompetent substitutes loyal to the authorities, thus causing a decline in the level of education and culture among the people of the Golan. There is also a great shortage of classrooms, with students crammed into houses and garages which had been converted into makeshift classes but lack the most basic hygiene requirements for the conduct of education. Reports indicate that the situation of secondary school certificate-holders is lamentable because the enemy authorities are preventing all but a few of them from pursuing their studies at Israel's universities (and even those few Golan students are accepted only after enormous efforts and much intervention). Between 150 and 200 students graduate from secondary schools in the Golan each year.

V. Taxation and earnings

Taxation in the area is continually on the rise. For example, each metre of construction is taxed at a rate of NIS 9, instead of NIS 7 last year. One United States dollar is equivalent to NIS 2.5. Very high fines are also imposed, the aim being to overburden the Syrian population of the Golan and make it impossible for them to pay their taxes. Their property is subject to seizure and they themselves are subject to detention. By way of example, the

youth Ra'fat Muhanna Sa'b was detained while driving his father's tractor without a driving licence: he was stopped and taken to court, where he was fined NIS 1,200 (i.e., approximately $500) before being released. The tractor was confiscated for a period of four months.

Taxes are levied on land, construction, commercial premises and all services, in addition to taxes on labour and production at a rate of 15 per cent.

The excessive increase in the level of taxation on the Arab population of the occupied Syrian heights, together with the enemy authorities' encroachment on their production and undermining of their economy, are designed to weaken the population's resistance and force them to submit to the will of the occupation.

VI. Services

Neglect and deterioration in this sphere are evident in many ways, e.g., deliberate neglect of the road network linking the five occupied villages, as well as the drinking water, sewage and electricity systems and other public service facilities. Arab residents of the Golan confirm that there has been no noticeable improvement in these facilities during 1991.

VII. Israeli environmental practices

The Golan Heights are located in the south-west of Syria and constitute the link between Syria and three neighbouring countries (Lebanon, Palestine and Jordan).

Quneitra covers an area of 1,860 square kilometres and is noted for its varied climate and agriculture. The highest point in the area is at 2,814 metres above sea level, compared with the lowest point - 60 kilometres away - at 218 metres above sea level.

The region is principally noted for its copious water resources, fertile soil, abundant pasture and many wells. Before 1967 it had a population of 153,000, with the population of Quneitra at that time standing at 53,000.

In pursuit of its aggressive settlement policy, Israel launched its treacherous attack on the Arab world in 1967, resulting in the occupation of most of the Golan until June 1974, when the city of Quneitra and many of the region's villages were liberated.

From the very beginning of the occupation, Israel was guilty of acts of inhumanity against defenceless citizens, subjecting them to the most abhorrent forms of repression and terrorism, forcing them to leave their land and destroying 147 towns and villages during the occupation. A few days before its withdrawal from Quneitra, it deliberately razed the town to the ground, using bulldozers, earth-movers and explosives.

It also burned down trees and woods in order to destroy the city's wealth of natural resources. Some 20,000 Syrian nationals are still living under the occupation and remain subject to the vilest forms of repression and terrorism. Their land and crops are confiscated; they are denied the opportunity of studying at universities; exorbitant taxes are imposed on them; curfews limit travel between different villages and even within the same village; and they are denied the opportunity to obtain social security and civil protection.

The Israeli authorities are still conducting explosions and expansion activities with a view to establishing additional military facilities. According to the latest statistics, the number of facilities destroyed amounts to some 15,000 installations, residential buildings, hospitals and schools, turning the residents of these areas into environmental refugees.

In accordance with the principles of international law governing the environment, particularly those emanating from the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held at Stockholm in 1972, and the World Charter for Nature, adopted by the General Assembly in 1982, recalling United Nations Environment Programme Governing Council decisions 14/11 and 15/8 concerning the environmental situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, the occupied Syrian Golan and other occupied Arab territories, with reference to the related resolutions of the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and in affirmation of mankind's fundamental human right to enjoy a healthy environment free of pollution, we may list the following brutal practices by the Israeli occupation authorities, which include the expropriation of land and water resources, the destruction of homes, the forcing of Arab nationals into exile and the construction of new settlements:

1. Israel's use of nuclear reactors represents the greatest overall danger to the environment in the Middle East region by virtue of the radiation they emit. The waste they produce also constitutes a great danger to the environment in the Mediterranean region.

2. Israel's secret use of chemical and biological weapon factories, together with its disposal of waste in the areas under its military occupation, present a threat to human life and the environment.

3. The destruction of the region's natural resources contributes to a real deterioration at all levels in view of the essential link between environmental, economic, social and population-related aspects of existence.

As is well known, water, trees and the air constitute the essential foundations for the establishment and preservation of an exemplary natural environment. The following facts should be mentioned in this connection:

(a) Water

The occupation authorities are seizing water and diverting sources to land inside Zionist settlements, thus aggravating the environmental situation on the Arab side and increasing the area of swamps and the spread of mosquitoes and epidemics in the occupied territories, as well as degrading the soil.

The occupation authorities have confiscated the waters of Al-Ya'furi - Al-Mushayrifah - Ra's Abu Sa'd in the Golan region and diverted them to Israeli settlements, causing a fall in the water level and an increase in the salinity of Lake Tiberias, to the extent that it is no longer good for agricultural use or for any purpose other than the fulfilment of Israeli objectives, including depriving the Arabs of any use or benefit from it for their lives and their environment.

The occupation authorities are diverting the waters of the Litani and the Hasbani to the occupied areas of southern Lebanon and discharging waste into watersheds leading to the Mediterranean, thus destroying the sea's fishing resources. As a result of the prevailing south-westerly winds and sea currents, the effect is felt all along the Syrian and Lebanese coasts, thus ruining the area's environment in flagrant violation of all international legal and moral principles and values.

The occupation authorities' aim is clear, namely, to drive out the population and portray the Arab territories as devoid of any life.

(b) Trees

1. Trees are essential for the preservation and purification of the environment. The continued existence of natural forests depends on constant care and conservation. The occupation authorities, of course, deliberately avoid providing such care and, for example, spray trees and forests with poisonous insecticides which lead to the death of the trees themselves, livestock and other flora and fauna.

2. They burn the green foliage in border areas, including natural forests, the intention being to expose such areas and prevent infiltration or attack by rebels or elements resisting occupation activities.

3. They spray fruit-bearing trees, and particularly the apple trees for which the Golan region is famous, with special insecticides which kill bees and certain other insects, thus preventing the population from producing or consuming honey and destroying this living natural resource.

4. They spray poisonous insecticides on pastures in order to prevent the population from grazing their livestock. Thus, they will have destroyed trees and animal resources at the same time, all for the purpose of taking over and annexing the land.

5. They cut down trees growing in the wild on the grounds that they are reclaiming land and expanding its arable area, though the purpose is to establish Jewish settlements and additional camps.

6. The occupation authorities are putting poisonous insecticides into the Golan population's water tanks, particularly those used for the irrigation of summer crops and fruit trees, with the intention of destroying the crops, withering the fruit trees and eliminating the agricultural production and sources of sustenance of the Arab population.

7. Waste is buried in the occupied territories and areas in which the population is concentrated, leading to the spread of epidemics and diseases among them.

8. While citing security reasons, they are doing real damage to the environment and changing the features of the land, thus violating international resolutions, including Sub-commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities resolution 1989/108, concerning man and the environment, and resolution 1989/39, concerning respect for the right to life. When Israel violates these two resolutions, it is creating harsh environmental conditions which make it difficult for the Arab population to endure such hardship and miserable standards of living. This in turn induces them to migrate, thus fulfilling Israel's objectives of emptying the area of its population and achieving its full annexation to the Israeli settlements.

VIII. Repression, oppression and suppression of freedoms

The Israeli occupation authorities indulge in practices incompatible with the most basic human rights against the Syrian Arab population of the occupied Golan. The life of Arab residents of the Golan is becoming harsher and gloomier each day as they suffer the blows of repression, oppression and the suppression of individual and collective freedoms. The general level of subjugation, disregard for human dignity and grave injustice may be seen in the arbitrary pronouncement of sentences to long or short terms of imprisonment for anyone who makes any protest against such oppression and injustice. Further evidence is provided by the fact that Arab residents of the Golan have, since the occupation in 1967, been weighed down by the yoke of emergency legislation and almost total subjugation to the Israeli Military Governor in the Golan. The Military Governor is empowered to impose a local curfew on the population of the area whenever he sees fit, for as long as he sees fit and for whatever reason. In addition, he may impose house arrest on whomsoever he wishes and issue orders for the detention of suspects. Other repressive practices include vicious beating, the firing on occasion of live bullets against demonstrators, raids on homes and schools, detention and imprisonment for the paltriest of reasons, as well as other practices which have become an alarming reality for citizens of the Golan on a daily basis since 1967. The situation has not improved at all in 1991, as is demonstrated by the following incidents:

On 7 February 1991, the occupation authorities arrested six citizens in the village of Majdal Shams simply for declaring that the occupation was illegal and ran counter to international law.

The newspaper Ha'aretz reported on the struggle against the Israeli occupation by Arab villagers in the Golan as follows: "Hundreds of members of the police and Border Police were deployed in the occupied Arab villages of the Golan to prevent the population engaging in demonstrations or acts of protest on the ninth anniversary of the compulsory distribution of Israeli identity cards to the area's Arab population, with a view to severing their affiliation to the nation of Syria and as a precaution against any demonstration. Yesterday, the Israeli police arrested five citizens from the occupied village of Majdal Shams on the grounds that they had encouraged the Arab population there to demonstrate against the occupation. With the arrest of these five individuals, the number of Arab citizens arrested by the occupation authorities in recent days rises to 12" (Ha'aretz, 10 February 1991).

They were all charged with the same offence as before. Also on that night and on previous nights, there were a number of raids on the homes of youths in other occupied villages of the Golan. Members of the police and Border Police were deployed with full military equipment along the roads linking the five occupied villages. It will be recalled that the Israeli occupation authorities had nine years earlier cancelled the Syrian Arab identity cards of Golan residents and replaced them with Israeli identity cards: the population rejected this measure and have fought against it ever since.

The newspaper Ma'ariv carried a report which demonstrates the resilience of patriotic sentiments among young Syrian Arab citizens of the Golan, as follows: "The local court at Nazareth yesterday handed down a suspended sentence of three years' imprisonment to two youths from the village of Majdal Shams in the Golan Heights following their conviction for cooperating with the Syrian authorities" (Ma'ariv, 4 March 1991).

There is no doubt that the continued vigilance of national sentiments in the villages of the Golan is a natural patriotic reaction to the determination of Israeli officials and Jewish settlers to impose a Zionist presence in the Golan Heights and to force a Zionist identity on the region under the shadow of the Israeli occupation. The Israeli press carries statements every day by Zionist officials and settlers affirming this aggressive and expansionist inclination.

On 13 February 1991, five citizens from Majdal Shams were arrested on charges of throwing stones at an Israeli patrol.

On 14 February 1991, a curfew was clamped on the villages of Majdal Shams, Mas'adah, Buq'ata and Ayn Qunyah to prevent citizens from celebrating the ninth anniversary of the general strike against the attempted imposition

of Israeli identity and the imposition of Israeli laws in the Golan (the annexation decision) on 14 December 1981.

On 18 February 1991, the enemy authorities arrested two minors in Majdal Shams on charges of writing slogans denouncing the occupation. On 17 April 1991, the anniversary of Syria's Independence Day, the occupation authorities imposed a curfew to prevent Syrian residents of the Golan from celebrating this national event. The occupation authorities also took other so-called "security measures" on the eve of the occasion, including the deployment of patrols and the erection of barriers on roads between the occupied villages. Neither these nor other measures were of any use in preventing the Arab population from celebrating this patriotic anniversary.

Reports from residents in the area confirm that the Israeli authorities have not desisted from their attempt to impose compulsory conscription into the army occupying their territory for Arab youths in the Golan. Because these youths have insisted on preserving their national dignity by refusing orders to serve in the Israeli army, many of them have been subjected to arrest, prosecution, harassment in terms of employment opportunities and other inhumane practices.

Among the accusations concocted by the occupation authorities against Arab youths in the Golan who refuse to serve in the Israeli army is that of cooperating with their own nation's authorities. The local court in Nazareth sentenced two youths from the village of Majdal Shams, Faris al-Sha'ir and Bassam Sulayman, to 10 years, including eight years of actual imprisonment, on this false charge in early April 1991 (Ma'ariv, 8 April 1991).

On 21 May 1991, the Israeli occupation authorities stepped up security to protect Israeli Housing Minister Ariel Sharon, who had decided to visit the village of Majdal Shams and other occupied villages in order to greet his affirmation of the sites of new Israeli settlements scheduled for establishment in the occupied Golan. When the Israeli authorities saw that the population intended to protest and demonstrate against the visit and against settlement activities in their territory in general, they were obliged to step up the level of their repression by indulging in further inhumane practices, as confirmed by reports from the area. They were expecting the village's population to greet Sharon in a way which would remind him of the reception accorded to Shimon Peres some years previously (Ma'ariv, 21 May 1991). On his visit to the village of Majdal Shams some years before, Shimon Peres had been met with noisy protest demonstrations involving violent confrontations between the police and villagers.

The same thing happened when a number of Israeli ministers, members of the Knesset and other important Government personalities announced their intention to visit the Golan on 4 November 1991 to participate in the inauguration of the Bruchim settlement. The ceremony did in fact take place at the Ke'la settlement (Qal' Golan) amid very intensive security measures.

On 11 September 1991, the enemy authorities arrested seven citizens in Majdal Shams and Mas'adah for singing national songs at weddings.

During the general strike in the Golan on 14 December 1991, citizens refused to go to work in protest against Israel's decision to annex the Golan on that date 10 years previously.

On 14 February 1992, there was a general strike in the Golan to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Syrian Arab population's strike against the occupation and imposition of Israeli identity on the population. The occupation authorities arrested a number of individuals in the village of Buq'ata on charges of writing anti-occupation slogans.

During January 1992, Golan citizens detained at Ashkelon prison were subjected to gas-grenade attacks by the occupation authorities inside their cells, together with other prisoners, because they had protested at severe overcrowding in the prison, which was filled to twice its capacity. A large number of prisoners were overcome by fumes and suffered various degrees of asphyxiation. They are undergoing different types of torture, and the hygiene conditions in the prison, where they are deprived of health care, are very poor. Similar events occurred in the summer of 1991, when the lack of even the most basic hygiene caused the spread of scabies and other diseases among them. They were not provided with the necessary health and medical care, or treatment and medicines, and the occupation authorities did not permit doctors from the occupied Golan into the prisons to treat and administer to them.

On Land Day, our people in the Golan were able to mark the occasion only by closing their shops. The enemy authorities deployed additional forces in the village of Mas'adah.

The Israeli authorities have for some time been trying to purchase a 20-dunum plot of land belonging to Muhsin Abu Salih in Mas'adah. He refused to sell it to the enemy authorities because they wished to purchase the land for expansionist purposes, to establish a kibbutz there. When they prevented him from grazing his cattle, he was forced to sell it to them at half the real price.

UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/256
S/24061
4 June 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
Item 98 (b) of the preliminary list*
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING
ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES FOR IMPROVING
THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN
RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 3 June 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter addressed to you on 2 June 1992 by Mr. Baha al-Din Ahmad, Chairman of the Legislative Council of the Kurdish Autonomous Region in the Republic of Iraq, concerning the illegality of the elections held in the Autonomous Region on 19 May 1992.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter, together with its annex and enclosure, circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 98 (b) of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Samir K. AL-NIMA
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/47/50.

92-23839 3238j (E) 050692 050692 050692

/...

ANNEX

Letter dated 2 June 1992 from the Chairman of the Legislative Council of the Kurdish Autonomous Region in the Republic of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

Under the Constitution of the Republic of Iraq and the Law on Autonomy (No. 33 of 1974), the Kurdish population of Iraq enjoys autonomy.

The first Legislative Council was elected in accordance with the aforementioned Law, as well as the Law on the Legislative Council of the Kurdish Autonomous Region (No. 56 of 1980) in November 1980. Elections were held in 1983 for the Council's second session and in 1986 for its third session. Elections were held on 9 September 1989 for the fourth session of the Legislative Council, of which I am currently the Chairman.

Under the aforementioned Law on Autonomy, each elected Legislative Council gives rise to an Executive Council responsible for administration of the Region's local affairs, subject to its retaining the confidence of the Legislative Council.

Before the latest elections to the Legislative Council in September 1989, invitations to attend the elections were issued to journalists and reporters of many countries' radio and television stations. A number of journalists and reporters from France, Turkey, Venezuela, Brazil, Germany, Sweden, Austria and Morocco did attend: we enclose herewith a list showing the names of some of those who attended the elections.

Those who attended were witnesses to the fact that the elections were held in accordance with the country's Constitution and laws, under conditions of security and stability in the Region and in a healthy atmosphere of freedom. Voter participation amounted to over 90 per cent of the region's population.

On 19 May 1992, a process referred to as "elections" took place - in violation of the country's Constitution and its prevailing legislation - in the area controlled by armed militias of parties belonging to the so-called Kurdistan Front, which are in turn under the military control of the United States, Britain and France.

All the evidence indicates that the majority of those living in the Region who participated in the elections were forced, at gunpoint, to take part in this unlawful process. Even representatives of the parties themselves admitted the occurrence of widespread fraud, as reported in many newspapers, particularly in Western countries. Furthermore, they then declared a result which would appear odd in any election, wherever in the world it took place, namely, a dead heat between the two political organizations with the most armed men in the Region. This is an artificial result which cannot possibly occur in any proper election. The result was declared several days after the

polls closed and after protracted meetings between the leaders of the two organizations and intervention on the part of representatives of America, Britain and France.

Kurdish citizens of Iraq represented by the Legislative Assembly of the Kurdish Autonomous Region, which was elected in accordance with the country's Constitution and prevailing legislation, do not recognize the process which took place on 19 May 1992 or its results. Those who claim to represent Iraq's Kurds but are protected by the spears of America, Britain and France do not represent the Kurds.

In fact, the elections were held at the prompting of the United States, Britain and France, three permanent members of the Security Council: their military representatives played an active role in organizing the elections and imposing their illogical and unlawful results.

The three aforementioned permanent members of the Security Council have in so doing violated the Charter of the United Nations, which, in Article 2, paragraph 7, affirms respect for the sovereignty of States and peoples, and violated those Security Council resolutions which have emphasized the preservation of Iraq's sovereignty. The Security Council resolutions relating to Iraq affirmed "the commitment of all Member States to the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence" of Iraq and all nations of the region. In addition, these States, which profess to uphold democracy, have violated the principles of democracy by encouraging the conduct of elections under their military protection. How can such a process be democratic when the area is controlled - under protection from those States - by large numbers of armed militias which do not observe law or order and impose their will on the population by force of arms?

What has happened in the Kurdish Autonomous Region - at the instigation and under the protection of three permanent members of the Security Council - constitutes a dangerous precedent for the international community. The three aforementioned States and those which followed in their footsteps bear the major responsibility for what has occurred.

We repeat once again - on behalf of the Legislative Council of the Kurdish Autonomous Region, the lawful representative body freely and duly elected under Iraqi sovereignty - our rejection of this process imposed by foreign forces and falsely conducted in the name of Iraq's Kurds. We accord no recognition to this process whatsoever and consider it unlawful.

(Signed) Baha al-Din AHMAD
Chairman of the Legislative
Council of the Kurdish
Autonomous Region

ENCLOSURE

Names of journalists who attended elections to the Legislative Council of the Kurdish Autonomous Region in September 1989

No.	Name	Nationality	Newspaper
1.	Kurcan Farar	Turkey	Sabah
2.	Namak Kucak	Turkey	Hürriyet
3.	Murad Uzgair	Turkey	Günes
4.	Huluk Gray	Turkey	Turkish Times
5.	Urhan Oghuroglu	Turkey	Günaydin
6.	Michael Matia	Venezuela	El Diario de Caracas
7.	Elsie Bardiza	Venezuela	Canal 8
8.	Amari Baskythe	Venezuela	El Universal
9.	Francisco Camayurbaios	Venezuela	Head of Press Section, Supreme Electoral Council
10.	Lithin Valero	Venezuela	Chief Editor, Panorama
11.	Najib Zafia	Venezuela	Chief Editor, Lebanon Today (Spanish edition)
12.	Luis Biardo Sadri	Venezuela	International writer, critic and analyst
13.	Angel Birusso	Venezuela	Canal 11
14.	Giovanni Taivin	Venezuela	Radio Suave
15.	Cristina Gonzales	Venezuela	Ultimas Noticias
16.	José Ocanto	Venezuela	Director, El Impulso
17.	Catherine Gentil	France	TF 1
18.	Pascal Richard	France	La Cinq
19.	Claude Lorbet	France	Le Figaro
20.	Thierry Garçon	France	Radio France International
21.	Jean-Pierre Berne	France	Correspondent, Agence France-Presse
22.	François Loubine	France	L'Express
23.	Paulo Federico Sofura	Brazil	Chief Editor, Fôlha de Pernambuco

/...

No.	Name	Nationality	Newspaper
24.	Olando Nicolain	Brazil	Director, Jornal da Amazona
25.		Germany	Die Welt
26.		Germany	_____ network
27.	Mateus Lundurted	Sweden	Dagens Nyheter
28.	Ali al-Alawi	Morocco	Writer
29.	Muhammad Bukhalifah	Morocco	Wikalat al-Maghreb al-Arabi
30.	Muhammad Khayr al-Din	Morocco	Al-Ittihad al-Ichtiraki
31.	Umar al-Lakuri	Morocco	Al-Alam
32.	Ali Islam Yusirghi	Morocco	Rissalat al-Oumma
33.	Al-Husayn Afar	Morocco	Rissalat al-Oumma
34.	Tali'ah al-Aklasi	Morocco	Anoual
35.	Sa'd Kaywan	Morocco	Il Manifesto (Italy); resident in Italy
36.	Hans Kingstrein	Austria	Vorarlberger Nachrichten

UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/257
S/24068
5 June 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
Items 29, 33, 35 and 46 of
the preliminary list*
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS
AND THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
CONSEQUENCES OF THE IRAQI OCCUPATION
OF AND AGGRESSION AGAINST KUWAIT

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 4 June 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a press communiqué issued by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council at its forty-third session, held at Riyadh on 3 June 1992 under the chairmanship of His Excellency Sheikh Salim Al-Sabah, Vice-Chairman of the Ministerial Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kuwait.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 29, 33, 35 and 46 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohammad Saad AL SALLAL
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/47/50.

ANNEX

Press communiqué

On Wednesday, 3 June 1992 (2 Dhu'lhijjah 1412), the Ministerial Council held its forty-third session in the city of Riyadh, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Sheikh Salim Al-Sabah, Vice-Chairman of the Ministerial Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait, in the presence of the following members:

His Excellency Sheikh Hamdan bin Zayd Al-Nahyan
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates

His Excellency Sheikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al-Khalifa
Minister of Housing of the State of Bahrain

His Royal Highness Prince Saud al-Faisal
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia

His Excellency Mr. Yusuf bin Alawi bin Abdullah
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman

His Excellency Mr. Mubarak bin Ali al-Khatir
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Qatar

The Ministerial Council considered recent developments in regional and international affairs and observed with concern that, despite the fact that more than a year had elapsed since the Iraqi regime had accepted Security Council resolution 687 (1991), which established the conditions for a cease-fire, the Iraqi regime was continuing to postpone and avoid compliance with the basic provisions of the Security Council decisions relating to its aggression against the State of Kuwait.

The Council reiterated its condemnation of the Iraqi regime for failing to comply fully and immediately with the Security Council resolutions, in particular those provisions relating to the release of all Kuwaiti and third country nationals imprisoned or detained, the demarcation of the boundary between Kuwait and Iraq in accordance with the Agreements of 1932 and 1963 and with Security Council resolution 687 (1991), the payment of compensation for damage resulting from its aggression for which it was liable under international law, the return of all Kuwaiti property, and the complete elimination of weapons of mass destruction.

The Council condemned the refusal of the Iraqi regime to accept the decision of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission, in particular regarding the land boundary, since that refusal concealed a warlike intent and an intent to violate the cease-fire. The Council urged the international community, in particular the members of the Security Council,

to respond in an appropriate manner to that aggressive attitude on the part of the Iraqi regime, especially with regard to the letter dated 21 May 1992 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, since the resolutions adopted by the Security Council in response to the Iraqi invasion of the State of Kuwait were clearly being violated and rejected and the security and sovereignty of Kuwait, as well as the security and stability of the region, were still threatened. The Council emphasized the importance and the necessity of maintaining a resolute and steadfast international stand with regard to the Iraqi regime until the latter submitted to legal international resolutions and to the resolution adopted by the Security Council in May 1991 under which the sanctions imposed against Iraq would be maintained until it complied with all its international obligations.

The Council reiterated its great interest in the unity and territorial integrity of Iraq and held the Iraqi regime fully responsible for the tyranny and bloody repression to which the Iraqi people were subjected. It also held the Iraqi regime fully responsible for all the difficulties which the fraternal Iraqi people might undergo as a result of the refusal of that regime to comply with Security Council resolutions 706 (1991) and 712 (1991) in so far as they related to the supply of foodstuffs and medicines.

The Council reviewed the progress of the operation for the restoration of peace designed to put an end to the Arab-Israeli confrontation and to arrive at a just and lasting solution to the Palestinian problem, on the basis of the principle of land for peace and in accordance with Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), and to guarantee the stable national rights of the Palestinian people, as well as their right to decide their own future and to establish an independent State in their land and their right to return. The Ministerial Council reiterated its commitment to support the efforts made to achieve peace and, as a sponsor of the Peace Conference, emphasized the importance of the mission which had been undertaken in that connection.

The Council expressed its growing consternation and its regret over the obstinacy and lack of seriousness of the Israeli side, which caused any kind of substantive advance in the current negotiations to fail, while the Arab side declared its sincere and firm desire to enter into serious negotiations with a view to consolidating a just, complete and lasting peace in the Middle East region.

The Council condemned the maintenance by Israel of a repressive and expansionist policy in the occupied Arab territories, and stated that the building of settlements and the deaths, torture, repression, arbitrary arrests and deportations perpetrated by the Israeli authorities against the Palestinian people were in absolute conflict with international peace efforts and the spirit of the new world order, as well as with international legal resolutions on the subject, especially Security Council resolution 726 (1992), adopted unanimously on 6 February 1992, which, inter alia, reaffirmed the

applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 to all the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem.

The Council wished to applaud and to express its appreciation for the generous proposal made by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Bin Abdul-Aziz Al Saud, to defray the costs of rebuilding the Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque, the Dome of the Rock Mosque and the Caliph Umar Bin Al-Khattab Mosque.

The Council noted the intensification and frequency of the Israeli assaults against the fraternal people of Lebanon, and condemned that naked aggression, which had taken the lives of innocent children and civilians, and had stripped the current peace efforts of any serious significance; accordingly, it requested the Security Council to exert suitable pressure on the Israeli authorities to persuade them to abandon their expansionist and aggressive policy, to agree to respect the independence, sovereignty and unity of Lebanese territory, and to submit completely and unconditionally to Security Council resolution 425 (1978) by immediately withdrawing their forces from southern Lebanon.

The Council expressed its great satisfaction and pride at the heroic victory of the Afghan people and the strengthening of the identity of an Islamic and independent Afghanistan; accordingly, it congratulated the authorities and the Muslim people of Afghanistan, and paid tribute to them for having overcome their differences, thus preserving national unity and the unity, independence and sovereignty of Afghanistan. The Council expressed the hope that the Muslim Afghan people would join efforts to achieve stability and begin rebuilding, so that the Afghan émigrés could begin returning to their homes, and so that the fraternal Muslim people could begin the reconstruction and the development of that Islamic country, and could prosper in safety and stability.

The Council followed with growing concern the course of the bloody events in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and condemned the actions of Serbia and Montenegro, their violation of the independence, sovereignty and unity of the territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the crimes of genocide and deportation perpetrated by their armed forces against civilians, children and women, in stark violation of human rights and international laws. It also appealed to the international community to enforce Security Council resolution 757 (1992) relating to the imposition of sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro, and to adopt all the requisite measures to compel Serbia and Montenegro to comply with international legal resolutions and to put an end to any type of demographic or geographic change in that region. The Ministerial Council welcomed the admission of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Slovenia to membership in the United Nations and hoped that security and stability would return to that region.

On the occasion of the eleventh anniversary of the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council, the Ministerial Council wished to express to the kings and the rulers of its member countries its great appreciation for the support which they had provided to the efforts undertaken to achieve its goals. It also most sincerely confirmed the determination of the member countries of the Council to pursue the path of cooperation, because of the positive results achieved thereby with regard to meeting the aspirations of the citizens of those countries and promoting a closer union.

Riyadh
2 Dhu'lhijjah 1412
3 June 1992

UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/258
S/24073
6 June 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
Item 69 of the preliminary list*
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 5 June 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit, enclosed herewith, the positions of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in reply to the letter of 27 May 1992 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia addressed to the Secretary-General, issued as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council (A/47/234-S/24028) of 28 May 1992.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council and of the General Assembly under agenda item 69 of the preliminary list of the forty-seventh session.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIĆ
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/47/50.

Annex

Positions of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in reply to the letter dated 27 May 1992 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia to the Secretary-General

Regarding the letter addressed by the Foreign Minister of Slovenia, Dimitrij Rupel, to the Secretary-General, the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia wishes to point out the following.

Although expressing its profound respect for the principles of the United Nations Charter in the conclusion of the letter, Slovenia has by it grossly violated these very principles, including the most fundamental among them; it interfered in the internal affairs of another Member State, with its Constitution, bodies, its name and membership in international organizations. In doing so, Slovenia had no immediate interest, since it is an internationally recognized State and a Member of the United Nations, a fact which is not and has never been disputed by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

It is wholly untrue that Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia are under foreign military occupation. The Army of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia withdrew from Croatia a long time ago or is withdrawing pursuant to the Security Council resolution on the deployment of the United Nations Protection Force in Yugoslavia (UNPROFOR), while the withdrawal of the remaining elements of that Army from Bosnia and Herzegovina is being prevented by the Muslim side in the ongoing civil war. Ample evidence to that effect is contained in the reports of UNPROFOR headquarters and is underlined in the report submitted by the Secretary-General to the Security Council on 30 May 1992 (S/24049).

The FR of Yugoslavia has not been created on the basis of the "right" of Serbia and Montenegro to establish a new State but is that part of the SFR of Yugoslavia which has not separated from it. The fact of secession of the parts of the former SFR of Yugoslavia has been constitutionally and legally operationalized by the adoption of the new Constitution which understandably relates only to that part of the SFR of Yugoslavia which did not seek separation. It is precisely the legal status of the FR of Yugoslavia that is directly concordant with the document entitled "Treaty Provisions for the Convention" (art. 1, para. 1) that is being discussed at the Conference on Yugoslavia under the aegis of the European Community. That document contains an explicit provision that the Republics wishing it may remain (not create) a common State.

The FR of Yugoslavia's continuing membership in international organizations is a fact based on numerous positions in international theory and practice, particularly those of the Sixth (Legal) Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations, adopted on 6 October 1967, and of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

The FR of Yugoslavia recognizes the need for, and is actively participating in, the activities concerning the division of common property rights and obligations arising from the succession of parts of the former SFR of Yugoslavia based on the principles of justice. However, it wishes to point out that the continuity of the international legal personality of the FR of Yugoslavia is in no way related to that division because Serbia and Montenegro, as members of the FR of Yugoslavia, do not accept the determination in that division of the parts that should belong to them, since they have not walked out of, but remained in, the SFR of Yugoslavia. That fact can in no way harm the material and non-material rights and obligations of Slovenia, Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. For this reason, there is no doubt that the attitude of Slovenia, presented in its letter to the Secretary-General, is an act of political interference in the internal affairs of another State.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/259
11 June 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session
Item 103 of the preliminary list*

QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR

Note verbale dated 5 June 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text, in English, of a statement of the Portuguese Government on East Timor, issued in Lisbon on 27 May 1992 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly under item 103, entitled "Question of East Timor", as listed in the preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda, dated 18 February 1992.

(Signed) Fernando REINO
Ambassador of Portugal
Permanent Representative
to the United Nations

* A/47/50.

92-24296 3220g (E) 090692 100692

/...

Annex

THE TRIAL AND SENTENCING OF EAST TIMORESE IN JAKARTA AND DILI

The Portuguese Government draws the attention of the international community to the trials of East Timorese arrested during the Santa Cruz massacre, in November 1991. These trials are taking place without the minimum requirements of impartiality and legal defence. Two of the defendants have already been sentenced with heavy prison terms. There is a sharp contrast between the sentencing of the victims - who have been accused of engaging in non-violent political activity in favour of the internationally recognized rights of the East Timorese people - and the fact that there was no significant punishment at all for the officers responsible for the terrible violence.

Indonesia is accused of bad faith as it has acted in flagrant violation of the provisions of the declaration adopted by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in March 1992, which it had accepted and subscribed to. In this, Indonesia has shown an arrogant disrespect for the universal condemnation that followed the massacre.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/259*
11 June 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session
Item 103 of the preliminary list**

QUESTION OF EAST TIMOR

Letter dated 5 June 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text, in English, of a statement of the Portuguese Government on East Timor, issued in Lisbon on 27 May 1992 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly under item 103 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Fernando REINO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
to the United Nations

---

* Reissued for technical reasons.

** A/47/50.

92-24832 3131c (E) 120692 *140692*

/...

Annex

THE TRIAL AND SENTENCING OF EAST TIMORESE IN JAKARTA AND DILI

The Portuguese Government draws the attention of the international community to the trials of East Timorese arrested during the Santa Cruz massacre, in November 1991. These trials are taking place without the minimum requirements of impartiality and legal defence. Two of the defendants have already been sentenced with heavy prison terms. There is a sharp contrast between the sentencing of the victims - who have been accused of engaging in non-violent political activity in favour of the internationally recognized rights of the East Timorese people - and the fact that there was no significant punishment at all for the officers responsible for the terrible violence.

Indonesia is accused of bad faith as it has acted in flagrant violation of the provisions of the declaration adopted by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in March 1992, which it had accepted and subscribed to. In this, Indonesia has shown an arrogant disrespect for the universal condemnation that followed the massacre.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/260
8 June 1992
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/RUSSIAN

Forty-seventh session
Item 69 of the preliminary list*

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 5 June 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Declaration by the Supreme Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine adopted on 2 June 1992 in connection with the adoption by the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation of the Enactment on the status of the Crimea (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 69 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Victor H. BATIOUK
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Ukraine
to the United Nations

* A/47/50.

92-24315 3209f (E) 110692 120692 140692

/...

Annex

DECLARATION BY THE SUPREME RADA OF UKRAINE CONCERNING THE DECISIONS BY THE SUPREME SOVIET OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION ON THE QUESTION OF CRIMEA

On 21 May 1992, the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation adopted an enactment on a legal appraisal of the decisions adopted in 1954 by the supreme organs of State power of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR) on changing the status of Crimea, under article 1 of which the resolution of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR of 5 February 1954 on the transfer of the Crimean region from the RSFSR to the Ukrainian SSR was declared "null and void from the moment of its adoption" on the grounds that it was allegedly adopted in violation of the Constitution (basic law) of the RSFSR and its legal procedure.

Since any decision concerning Crimea which is adopted not by Ukraine, but by an organ of State power of another State, infringes upon the "rights inherent in the sovereignty" of Ukraine and, in particular, "the right of every State to ... territorial integrity" (Principle I of the Declaration on Principles of the Helsinki Final Act adopted by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE)),

the Supreme Rada of Ukraine declares:

1. From a legal point of view, article 1 of the enactment by the Parliament of Russia of 21 May 1992 entails no legal consequences for Ukraine and does not affect the territorial status quo which came into existence between Ukraine and Russia during the time between the incorporation of the Crimean region into the Ukrainian SSR and the proclamation by Ukraine of its State independence on 24 August 1991, endorsed by the nationwide Ukrainian referendum of 1 December 1991, for the following reasons:

(a) The enactment by the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation of 21 May 1992 does not set aside and cannot declare null and void the other legal norms of the legislation of Russia by which the legal status of Crimea was determined, in particular, article 14 of the Constitution of the RSFSR of 1936 (with amendments and additions, which remained in effect until 1978), in accordance with which the Crimean region was excluded from the territory of the RSFSR in 1954, and article 71 of the Constitution of the RSFSR of 1978, in accordance with which the Crimean region did not form part of the RSFSR, as well as article 18 of the Constitution of the Ukrainian SSR of 1937 and article 77 of the Constitution of the Ukrainian SSR of 1978, in accordance with which the Crimean region formed part of the Ukrainian SSR;

(b) The Russian Federation is not the sole successor State of the former USSR. The legal successors of the USSR, as established by the documents concluded within the framework of the Commonwealth of Independent States, are all the former Soviet republics, including Ukraine. Consequently, the Russian

Federation does not have the power unilaterally to set aside legal norms or acts adopted by the USSR. This applies, in particular, to the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR on the transfer of the Crimean region from the RSFSR to the Ukrainian SSR of 19 February 1954, the Act of the USSR on the transfer of the Crimean region from the RSFSR to the Ukrainian SSR of 26 April 1954 and articles 22 and 23 of the Constitution of the USSR of 1936 (with amendments and additions, effective until 1977), in accordance with which the Crimean region was incorporated into the Ukrainian SSR;

(c) The Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, in article 2 of its enactment of 21 May 1992, recognized "the constitutionality conferred by subsequent legislation of the RSFSR on the fact in question" - the transfer of the Crimean region from the RSFSR to the Ukrainian SSR. Following the principle of the hierarchy of legal norms, the recognition by the Russian Parliament of the validity of the constitutional norms of Russian legislation concerning the legal status of Crimea has the effect of nullifying any resolutions by the Supreme Soviet of Russia on this matter;

(d) The definitive constitutional legalization of the transfer of the Crimean region from the RSFSR to the Ukrainian SSR was effected in full compliance with the requirements of the Constitution of the USSR in force at that time. Under article 14 of the Constitution of the USSR, it lay within the competence of the USSR, through its supreme organs of State power and State administration, to ratify changes in the frontiers between the Union republics (paragraph (a)) and to ratify the formation of new regions within the Union republics (paragraph (f)). In accordance with paragraphs (a) and (f) of article 14 of the Constitution of the USSR, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, by the Act of the USSR of 28 April 1954, ratified the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR of 19 February 1954 concerning the transfer of the Crimean region from the RSFSR to the Ukrainian SSR, adopted on the basis of "the joint submission by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR", and made the corresponding amendments to articles 22 and 23 of the Constitution of the USSR, in accordance with which the Crimean region formed part of the Ukrainian SSR.

2. In the complete absence of any formal and legal grounds for a review of the question of the legal status of Crimea, the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation has resorted to an unfriendly act vis-à-vis Ukraine, motivated by purely political considerations.

The Russian Parliament has set out the political motives for its actions in its statement to the Supreme Rada of Ukraine, adopted on 22 May 1992.

In that statement, the Russian Parliament groundlessly describes the policy of Ukraine as one which is "harmful to the world community as a whole" and which "fails to take into account the aspirations of all peoples to live in peace and harmony with the peoples of the former Soviet Union". The leaders of Ukraine are insultingly described as "failing, in the deteriorating economic conditions of their States and peoples, properly to appreciate the

true realities and the obvious urgency of the task of restoring and developing the disrupted economic and production relations". Without asking the people of Ukraine, the Russian Parliament has decided for itself what is and what is not in the interests of the people of Ukraine and of other peoples, declaring: "the universal strengthening of concord and the processes of integration is in the interest of peoples".

The Supreme Soviet of Russia proclaims its intention "strictly to observe the fundamental principles of the United Nations Charter and of the CSCE". The documents of the Russian Parliament of 21 and 22 May 1992, however, furnish direct evidence of the reluctance of the supreme legislative organ of Russia to observe Principle III of the Declaration on Principles of the Helsinki Final Act, in accordance with which States members of CSCE "regard as inviolable all one another's frontiers as well as the frontiers of all States in Europe and therefore they will refrain now and in the future from assaulting these frontiers", or Principle IV, under which participating States undertook to respect the territorial integrity of each of the participating States.

The position of the Russian Parliament on questions concerning the borders between Ukraine and Russia is ambiguous and contradictory, since it is impossible to divide the borders between Russia and Ukraine into those "existing within the framework of the Commonwealth of Independent States" and those existing outside the framework of the Commonwealth of Independent States. In that way the principle of the inviolability of borders is artificially made conditional upon participation in the Commonwealth of Independent States. The operation of one of the fundamental principles of international law applies equally to the State border of Ukraine and the State border of Russia.

The documents from the Russian Parliament are at variance with Principle VI of the Declaration on Principles of the Helsinki Final Act, requiring the participating States to refrain "from any intervention, direct or indirect, individual or collective, in the internal or external affairs falling within the domestic jurisdiction of another participating State, regardless of their mutual relations". Consideration by the Russian Parliament of a matter affecting the question of the legal status of Crimea is direct intervention in the internal affairs of Ukraine falling within the domestic jurisdiction of Ukraine. Under the current Constitution and legislation of Ukraine, Crimea is an autonomous component of Ukraine whose status must be determined through the domestic jurisdiction of Ukraine in accordance with the manner in which other States Members of the United Nations resolve questions concerning the rights of their autonomous components and the correlation of authority between the central organs of power and the autonomous organs of power.

These actions by the Russian Parliament are also direct interference in the external affairs of Ukraine, and are at variance with Principle VIII of the Declaration on Principles of the Helsinki Final Act, according to which "all peoples always have the right, in full freedom, to determine, when and as

they wish, their internal and external political status, without external interference". In demanding that Ukraine "refrain from any actions aimed at suppression of the free will of the population of Crimea", the Parliament of Russia is, at the same time, denying that right to the people of Ukraine, and linking the problem of Crimea, of the inviolability of Ukraine's borders and of the preservation of its territorial integrity with such questions as the policy of Ukraine within the framework of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the military policy of Ukraine and the question of the Black Sea Fleet. The question of whether Ukraine is or is not in the Commonwealth of Independent States must be decided only by Ukraine, and not by the Russian Parliament. The question of what external and internal policy Ukraine is to pursue must be decided by Ukraine itself, and not by the Russian Parliament. Questions concerning the Black Sea Fleet are decided within the framework of bilateral negotiations between Ukraine and Russia.

In Ukraine there are no manifestations of "the oppression of the rights of representatives of the Russian people, or of other nations and nationalities living in the territory of Ukraine and having historic links with Russia".

In fact, Ukraine secures and guarantees strict observance of the rights of the entire population of Crimea, including those of the Crimean Tatar people, and will not take any actions directed at the oppression of the free will of the population of Crimea as established in accordance with the principles of international law and within the framework of the Constitution of Ukraine.

Therefore, the actions of the Russian Parliament can only be regarded as an attempt to exert political pressure and as an act of political blackmail against Ukraine.

This position taken by the Russian Parliament is clearly contrary to Principle IX of the Declaration of Principles of the Helsinki Final Act, according to which the participating States of CSCE stated that they would endeavour "to promote mutual understanding and confidence, friendly and good-neighbourly relations among themselves, international peace, security and justice".

The Supreme Rada of Ukraine regards the actions of the Parliament of Russia to be such as to cause great harm to the friendly and good-neighbourly relations between Ukraine and Russia, threaten mutual understanding and confidence and undermine international peace and security in Europe. Furthermore, such actions contravene Principle X of the Declaration on Principles of the Helsinki Final Act, which requires the participating States of CSCE to fulfil in good faith their obligations under international law.

The actions of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation contravene seven of the ten Principles of the Helsinki Final Act which have come to be called the "Ten Commandments of Peace" or the "Charter for a Peaceful Life in Europe", and thereby also violate other norms of international law, in

particular the provisions of article 6 of the treaty between the Ukrainian SSR and the RSFSR of 19 November 1990 and article 5 of the Agreement establishing the Commonwealth of Independent States, signed at Minsk on 8 December 1991.

The Supreme Rada of Ukraine unreservedly repudiates the attempts by the Parliament of Russia to conduct its policy with respect to Ukraine from a position of Great Power chauvinism based on "the right of the powerful" or the right of "big brother".

The Supreme Rada of Ukraine repudiates the groundless demand of the Supreme Soviet of Russia that the question of Crimea "be settled through inter-State negotiations between Russia and Ukraine".

The Supreme Rada of Ukraine draws the attention of the participating States of CSCE, the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council and all States of the international community to the inadmissibility of a policy of silence when there are clear cases of a declaration of territorial claims against Ukraine by Russia. A policy of silence and non-interference in this case is, in essence, a policy that will contribute to a variant of the events in Yugoslavia being transferred to the land of Ukraine.

A timely and effective reaction on the part of the international community can still stop those who are inciting and kindling enmity between nations in Crimea and who along the lines of Karabakh, the Trans-Dniester Republic and South Ossetia are striving by force to compel Ukraine to give up its independence.

Ukraine will remain faithful to the principles and provisions of the bilateral Treaty concluded with Russia on 19 November 1990.

Ukrainian-Russian relations must be based on and developed exclusively in accordance with international law and through equal dialogue. Only in that way can the feelings of friendship, mutual respect and cooperation between the peoples of Ukraine and Russia, which are essential for us and for the whole of Europe, be preserved.

Supreme Rada of Ukraine
Kiev, 2 June 1990

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/261
11 June 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session
Item 35 of the preliminary list*

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Letter dated 8 June 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text, in English and French, of a statement of the European Community and its member States on the situation in South Lebanon, issued in Lisbon and Brussels on 27 May 1992 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly under item 35, entitled: "The situation in the Middle East", as listed in the preliminary list of items to be included in the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Fernando REINO
Permanent Representative

---

* A/47/50.

92-24302 3122c (E) 090692 100692

/...

Annex

STATEMENT ON THE SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON

[Original: English and French]

The Community and its member States express their grave concern at the recent worsening of the situation in South Lebanon. They strongly reiterate their condemnation of all acts of violence in the region, whatever their origin. Such acts of violence have already led to the loss of the lives of innocent civilians and those of United Nations personnel in the area and threaten to undermine the Middle East peace process, as well as the authority of the newly installed Lebanese Government. Bearing this in mind, the Community and its member States appeal to the parties involved to refrain from any military actions and to respect the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon, in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolution 425 (1978), which should be fully implemented.